

## Installation

Installing your site is actually one of the easiest things to do. It is all the planning and organization leading up to opening your site and then the ongoing maintenance that becomes challenging. Still, there are some that are better at planning and organizing than they are at the technical portion. So, we have put together this quick guide to help you get your site ready for use.

## [General Configuration](#)

Once your site is installed, you need to know what all your options are. Actually, it is a good idea to know what your options are before you begin, so you can be ready when the time comes to making it work.

## [Users and Groups](#)

If you have selected a content management system (CMS) to build your web site, that means several people (dozens, if not hundreds or thousands) will be involved in different aspects of your site. Keeping the chaos to a minimum requires at least a basic understanding of managing privileges and permissions for users and groups.

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All of your site administration and configuration for ImpressCMS and XOOPS is done through the admin control panel. You will need to log in with an account that has permissions to access the administration area. The default User Menu will contain a link to the admin area, but you may have a custom theme that places the link in another location. The page to access is [yoursite.com/admin.php](http://yoursite.com/admin.php)

The options available in the administration area depend on the permissions granted to the specific member. The system administration (webmaster) account, will have access to everything, while other members may have access to specific functions, like Find Users, Mail Users and Imagemanager. Here is a complete list of the system settings in the control panel -

- Adsense
- Autotasks
- Avatars
- Banners
- Blocks
- Block Positions
- Comments
- Custom Tags
- Edit Users
- Find Users
- Groups
- Imagemanager
- Mail Users
- Mimetypes
- Modules
- Preferences
  - Authentication
  - Auto Tasks
  - Captcha Settings
  - General Settings
  - HTMLPurifier Settings
  - Mail Setup
  - Meta + Footer
  - Multilanguage
  - Personalization
  - Plugins Manager
  - Search Options
  - User Settings
  - Word Censoring
- Ratings
- Smilies
- Symlinks
- Templates
- User Ranks

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*One of the major strengths of an ImpressCMS- or XOOPS-based site is the ability to create content and control access to that content by specific user groups. You can also control actions for various areas by user group. But, some thought needs to be put into this before forging ahead.*

There are 3 basic groups that are part of every XOOPS or ImpressCMS installation - **Webmasters**, **Registered Users** and **Anonymous Users**. The user you created when you installed your site was placed in the Webmasters group and has complete access to all areas and functions on the site. As new users create accounts on your site, they are placed in the Registered Users group. Anyone not registered or not logged in is part of the Anonymous Users group.

Groups provide you with the means to control who has access to different types of content and different functions through a permissions system. You select which groups have access to each module, which groups can administer each module and which groups can view the various blocks for the modules. Individual modules also have permission settings for the various functions within that module.

You also have the ability to create your own custom groups and assign different permissions within your site. It is highly recommended you create at least one new group for users that will manage the day-to-day operations of your site and leave the default Webmasters group for system administration (installing, uninstalling and updating modules; setting group permissions and system preferences are tasks that are best left unavailable, except when needed).

Within your church or ministry, you may have groups like Pastors, Teachers, Staff, Ministry Leaders, Technical Advisors and Members. As you develop further participation on your site, you may find it helpful to have groups for each of the ministries you serve - youth, seniors, music, outreach, hospitality, confirmation, families, couples - it all depends on what fits your needs. Just remember, simpler is better and only make it as complex as it needs to be.

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